



RECEIVED
JAN 15 2003
TC 1700



Docket No.: 215204US0X

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

ATTORNEYS AT LAW

NORMAN F. OBLON
(703) 413-3000

NOBLON@OBLON.COM

VINCENT K. SHIER, PH.D.

REGISTERED PATENT AGENT

(703) 413-3000

VSHIER@OBLON.COM

RE: Application Serial No.: 09/982,782
Applicants: Hiroyuki ISHIKAWA et al.
Filing Date: OCTOBER 22, 2001
For: LAMINATE WITH A PEELABLE TOP LAYER AND METHOD
OF PEELING OFF THE TOP LAYER FROM THE LAMINATE
Group Art Unit: 1772
Examiner: EGAN

SIR:

Attached hereto for filing are the following papers:

Response to Restriction Requirement

Our check in the amount of \$0.00 is attached covering any required fees. In the event any variance exists between the amount enclosed and the Patent Office charges for filing the above-noted documents, including any fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for any necessary Extension of Time to make the filing of the attached documents timely, please charge or credit the difference to our Deposit Account No. 15-0030. Further, if these papers are not considered timely filed, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for the necessary extension of time. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

Norman F. Oblon
Attorney of Record
Registration No. 24,618

Vincent K. Shier, Ph.D.
Registration No. 50,552



22850

DOCKET NO.: 215204US0X



RECEIVED
JAN 15 2003
TC 1700

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF:

Hiroyuki ISHIKAWA, et al.

: GROUP ART UNIT: 1772

SERIAL NO.: 09/982,782

FILED: OCTOBER 22, 2001

: EXAMINER: EGAN

FOR: LAMINATE WITH A PEELABLE TOP LAYER AND METHOD OF PEELING
OFF THE TOP LAYER FROM THE LAMINATE

#7

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

In response to the Official Action dated December 13, 2002, Applicants elect, with
traverse, Group I, Claims 1-11, for further prosecution.

REMARKS

The Office has required restriction in the present application as follows:

Group I: Claims 1-11, drawn to a laminate comprising a peelable top layer; and

Group II: Claims 12-15, drawn to a method of peeling off a peelable top layer.

Applicants elect, with traverse, Group I, Claims 1-11, for further prosecution.

Applicants traverse the Restriction Requirement on the grounds that the claim of
Group II directly depends from the claims of Group I, and as such these groups can not be
separated.

In regard to Groups I and II, the Office has characterized the relationship between
these two groups as product and process of use. Citing MPEP §806.05(h), the Office